

# What's New in the MPDC

NOVEMBER 11, 2002

## FOURTH DISTRICT SERGEANT HONORED AS DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER OF THE MONTH

\*\*\*\*\*

Earlier this year, Sergeant Gerard Burke of the Fourth District saw a suspicious man standing outside a building in the 800 block of Kennedy Street, NW, an area known for heavy drug activity. As Sergeant Burke approached the subject, he became agitated and dropped a zip-lock bag containing several smaller zip-lock bags. The alert sergeant then noticed that the individual was holding several more zip-lock bags in his right hand. When the subject tried to flee, Burke managed to wrestle him to the ground and call for backup.

While the subject was being detained, he attempted to swallow nine of the zip-lock bags. The bags were recovered and field-tested positive for crack cocaine. The subject was identified, placed under arrest and charged with Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine. For his alertness and quick action, Sergeant Burke was honored as November's Departmental Officer of the Month during the Department's monthly awards ceremony. Burke was one of 20 MPDC officers who were honored during the November CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) ceremony, hosted by the Raddison Barcelo Hotel. To read more about the actions of all of this month's awardees, click on:

*Dozens of MPDC officers and civilian employees, along with their partners in community policing, will be honored during the MPDC's Annual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, November 14. The free event begins at 7 pm in DAR Constitution Hall, and is open to the public. Local broadcasters Kojo Nnamdi of WAMU-FM and Jackie Bensen of WRC-TV will serve as emcees. More*

[mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/champs/2002/11.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/champs/2002/11.shtm)

## DC COUNCIL APPROVES REGULATIONS ON MPDC'S CLOSED CIRCUIT TV SYSTEM

\*\*\*\*\*

This week, the District of Columbia Council approved guidelines for the MPDC's use of its limited Closed Circuit Television system. The rules passed by the Council on November 7 essentially mirror the existing operating policies and procedures that the MPDC had previously adopted through an internal directive. Among other provisions, the regulations continue the MPDC policy of using CCTV only in public spaces and only to support policing operations during major events or emergency situations. In addition, the regulations continue the MPDC policies of not using CCTV to target individuals based on race, gender or other classification protected by law, nor to use CCTV to infringe on First Amendment rights. Other provisions of the new regulations pertain to public notification, operator certification, activation and usage, recording and retention of recordings, maintenance and audits. Both the MPDC's internal policies and the regulations approved by the Council adhere to the American Bar Association's standards on law enforcement use of video technology. The current, limited CCTV system was first activated shortly after the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks and has been used sporadically since then during selected major events, emergencies and times of heightened alerts. The system is currently not activated.

## MPDC SWEARS IN NEW POLICE OFFICERS, AS RECRUIT CLASS 2002-2 COMPLETES TRAINING

\*\*\*\*\*

Chief Ramsey welcomed the MPDC's newest police officers on Friday: 12 members of Recruit Class 2002-2. The officers completed nearly six months of training at the MPDC's Maurice T. Turner Jr., Institute of Police Science, and were officially sworn in during ceremonies at the National Zoo's Visitors Center Auditorium. During remarks at the ceremony, Ramsey advised the new officers to always remember the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics that they have agreed to abide by. He reminded them that the Code requires them to protect not only life and property, but also the Constitutional rights of all persons. "We have been given the responsibility to protect the very rights that define us as Americans – the right to assemble, the right to speak, the right to petition our government, the right to seek and receive justice. And nowhere is this unique role of the police more visible, more scrutinized or more challenging than right here in our Nation's Capital," the Chief said. The new officers will be detailed for a short period of time to the Evidence Control Branch for a special project, then will be assigned to neighborhood patrols in the police districts. The MPDC currently has 3,650 sworn members.

*For information on how to become a Metropolitan Police officer, go to:*

***[mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/officer.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/officer.shtm)***

## MPDC ANNOUNCES NEW CIVILIAN JOB VACANIES

\*\*\*\*\*

The MPDC is seeking qualified candidates for three new civilian job vacancies that were announced this past week:

- **Writer-editor.** Working in the Office of Corporate Communications, this individual will be the lead writer for internal communications, including a five-day-a-week internal newsletter.
- **Management analysis officer.** Working in the MPDC's Institute of Police Science, this individual will manage the Office of Testing and Standards.
- **Facilities management specialist.** Working in the Facilities Management Office, this individual will help coordinate facility construction and renovation efforts among staff, contractors, vendors and other parties.

All of these positions are currently open. For detailed job descriptions and information on how to apply, click on:

**[mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/civilian.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/civilian.shtm)**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Information, ideas or comments about this service?*

*E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov).*

*Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com).*

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE**  
**MPDC.DC.GOV**